

In research work there is science, religion and luck. This is true also in occultism. Science is hard intelligent applied effort. Religion is the faith behind the effort. Luck is that inherent urge or instinct that drives the worker in the right direction.

The purpose of the increasing complexity of civilization is not that greater service and comfort may be available to humanity, but that a larger number of evolving human beings may be trained simultaneously in planning, perfecting and giving service not only in the religious field but also in the field of politics and science. This is the reason so many advanced souls are coming into incarnation at the present time.

Once a student gets any hunch or flash of illumination he must use it, ultimately. Every impression should be tried out, whether good or evil, once the seeker has entered the path. Nothing can come through the veil the second time. It makes no difference what a student is or what he knows, it is what he does that counts. As he becomes advanced, he gains his occult knowledge from the work of the world. The thing that counts is not knowledge but usefulness.

Those things which come and slip away so easily are initiation testimonies. Those things which the aspirant can grasp, use, translate and make understandable to other people are truly his successful initiation testimonies. His own development is between the aspirant and his higher self. No one else is concerned therewith.

All higher knowledge comes in symbols. Pure unadulterated truth cannot be expressed. It can only be symbolized from some simple aspect of it.

The first flash of any initiation testimony always gives a complete picture of what is to come. The only vision of anything that the aspirant will have that is clear, sharp and true is the first flash. This flash comes only when he is in a mood of aspiration and perfect relaxation.

The channel is not necessarily superior to the revelation that comes through the channel, and may be vastly unworthy. Only those things which are meant for the aspirant will he be able to grasp, and those reached through him will only be able to take that to which they are entitled.

Our highest occult orders at present on the earth are brothers from the planet Venus. In critical times like the present, the brothers in spiritual charge upon the earth are superseded by initiates from the planet Venus. This is so because the somewhat more advanced human life-stream which preceded ours upon this physical globe is now resident on Venus. Lower California, certain parts of southern and northern California, Nantucket and part of Martha's Vineyard Island, a small section of Florida, and other scattered sections are Pannic, unchanged after one or more immersions under the ocean and strongly marked with the influence of the life wave on Venus named for the God Pan. Pan as a nature deity represents only the phase of the Venus influence in the subempyrean orders or the Rosicrucian elemental spirits. The order of Venus initiates has no name, organization or recognizable trademark on earth. The present colonization is some thousands. The parts of the American continent mentioned are direct relics of the Venus life wave. Therefore in the present time of stress, the orders and instructions coming most directly from the highest sources center of necessity in California and those parts of the East associated with the geographical remnants above stated.

In Florida is an important development of the subempyrean groups, preparatory to a new incarnation of the God Pan. This will facilitate a process necessary in the building of the preliminary influences for the birth of the sixth root race, and concerned with the

lower vehicles for the sixth root race, even as development of the highest or human sixth root vehicle is somewhat under process of construction in higher realms through the development and training of spiritually minded people who dream of a part in the establishment of the sixth root race and contribute to the archetype.

California in the north and far south, or Mexican peninsula, serves at present as a reservoir of special ethers, while the coast line of the state from San Diego up to Point Conception is used as a ground of active development not of particularly high spiritual vibrations but of an odd atmospheric structure that permits ready externalization of good and evil etheric and astral impulses. It is the present world's most active proving ground of spiritual things.

Nantucket and Martha's Vineyard are active by geological relationship to that part of New York City situated in the central belt of Manhattan Island and an area of largely abandoned orchard land in Westchester County. New York City, due to the type and character of its population, as was Boston preceding it and likewise by geological relationship to the island Pennic land is the solidly crystallized community that provides the proper cloistering of spiritual things of a higher order, and so is for the present and probably for some generations the spiritual center of the American continent. Eventually the center will be in California, but not until after a cataclysm on the North American Atlantic seaboard and the partial uprising of a new Pacific continent. There is a Mediterranean development to precede this.

If any one is entitled to initiation and development, it comes to him and he does not have to move residence unless ordered to do so.

Venus rules the metal copper and the features of the face. The race which is closest to the nature spirits is the race of the American red Indians. They have the most expressionless face. A man's features express what he is, what he is thinking, and what he is giving forth. In the white race there is a great variety of expression. The further away from white, the less expression there is. That race which carries the focus of human consciousness is always white.

That which is not understood is always terrifying.

The mark of independence is the ability to rise above conditions. The completely evolved man is one who is able to remain in an upright position for an indefinite time and who is able to live without sleep.

The nucleus of lead is the beginning of the philosopher's stone. Saturn rules time and karma and is the initiator. The nucleus of lead is Aquarius. It is out of this nucleus that the complete and final initiation comes.

Scorpio represents that thing within that takes form without agency. It is that which is developed subconsciously, and which reflects what a man does and what he gives forth in his life and teaching and in his works. As the aspirant develops the tests come to him not first from within but in his relationship to people and things about him. His first tests are in his work and associations and adaptability to conditions.

He conquers in his body all the metals in their subelemental state. He conquers them in his ability to change them. Then the hierarchies take them and find a new place for them. By transmuting them he creates the philosopher's stone and in so doing he becomes God, the adept, the master or the highest initiate.

The self is not the ego. The hierarchies have given the self for the one incarnation. The ego has the opportunity of dissipating its power or completing through it all that the other selves have done. As the self enlarges its consciousness it becomes more and more able to take over the karma of previous selves, and to use that constructively or destructively.

There is within each self the strength of foundation things, and until the self is sure it is ready for the next step it dare not destroy these. If a teacher sees any sign that a person is ready for a little enlargement of understanding he should give it, but should not wipe out any foundation unless absolutely sure a new growth stands ready to replace its strength.

All things are good in their proper place. Evil is only misplaced good. One person's foundation should not be put into another person. It is necessary that the self get into its own experiences and transmute them before it can become divine. No aspirant need worry about picking up anything and taking it into higher worlds where it does not rightly belong.

Whenever the aspirant crystallizes he is lost. So long as there is aspiration there is hope. The most valuable occult workers are recruited from the lowest sympathies. Those who have sympathy with things of the lowest are most helpful to the brothers.

The communion cup is the sharing of experience. That which is truest communion is standing by and seeing another going through a terrible experience, vicariously sharing it with him but doing nothing to spoil the lesson.

The things which are spiritually attributed to the heart are actually centered in the head because they are mental. In the forebrain or proencephalon, ruled by Leo, they have volitional inception.

"Thou are the head of Gold!" indicates the fact that the self has all its faculties at its command. Its consciousness is focused in Leo. The person born in innocence with all his faculties at his command would, if allowed to keep his full measure of consciousness, destroy himself through his lack of wisdom. For the first seven years the child is truly a shadow of its parents. The next seven years is a period of imitation and mimicking and rapid growth. Then follows a period of sensual awareness when the emotional vehicle comes in. Guiding this and holding it back are the principles developed in the two previous seven-year periods. The ensuing period is the time of first maturity when the self in its mental vehicle comes in: "Thou are the head of Gold!"

The first thing with which the self or individuality cloaks itself is the personality or emotional or false-self. Then the personality wraps itself in the shadow-self or conventionality, or the principle of habit and subconscious reflex which was first developed. From the twenty-first to twenty-eighth year is a period of reflexive initiative in which the self becomes the head of gold or takes mental possession. From twenty-eight to thirty-five comes the growth period of the mentality with the development of the shadow-self as a ruler. From thirty-five to forty-two comes the emotional period in which occurs the burning out of all the dross of the emotions, and the false-self is refined as a ruler. Not until a person is around forty does he really understand life. The the head of gold has lost by alloying itself with the lesser lower metals, or else has transmuted the baser metals to gold.

The real being is that which grows in the solar plexus. Here and not in the head centers the golden wedding garment of the solar vehicle of initiation. Man in his first differentiation was spherical, and will again in his last differentiation be a globe but turned out or inverted. Circumcision really is an occult rite to the pineal body representing this process.

The making of the nucleus or the philosopher's stone is a matter of the development of consciousness. The consciousness itself does not go into the philosopher's stone any more than the atoms which temporarily come into the body are the body.

The process of dealing with consciousness that gives wisdom and understanding is what might be described as grinding diamond facets. The making of the philosopher's stone is the constant polishing of these. The person of great development has a golden aura. Down deep within the center is the beginning of the development of the spiritual life which grows into this golden aura. To develop it is the opportunity of the self of every being.

The image is standing on its feet of shale and clay. This means that its foundation is partly pliable and partly inert. If a helper seeks to make a person entirely pliable, there is no growth because the person has no foundation of set being immune to influence. It is more important that the person be building on something than that he be building on truth. A true philosophy can be built on a false foundation which in that case, sooner or later, is removed or shifted. Eventually, it makes no difference how the result is achieved provided the work of building goes on. A foundation driven deep enough in aspiration will preserve a structure whether it be built on sand or on rock.

Weakness is necessary because through weakness comes change. Every subdivision of life's activity is partly right and partly wrong, and the effort to stamp out that which is wrong is a mistake until there is a strong foundation because that which is right is apt to suffer too.

Externals are the only tangible things in which the aspirant has to work, and so he must work in externals. No one can in any wise help that which is spiritually beautiful in a personality by trying to scrape off the superficial obnoxiousness of the person.

The entire progress of the world is due primarily to the stirring up of things by its disgruntled and dissatisfied people.

Honesty is an entirely relative matter. By those in power common honesty is used as the grossest lever of oppression.

There is only one thing a man possesses that is absolutely his own, and that is his allotment of duration of being. Time is the only thing for which he is eventually held accountable.

The more deeply man is immersed in experience the more valuable the lesson he is learning. There are two great dangers in life. One is the danger to the man who does not get into his experiences. He is known as the teaser type. He never really achieves anything. He does not possess courage. It is better to face the other great danger, and plunge too far into the uttermost depths of experience than to play with it. Nothing can hurt an ego. If man draws an essence from any experience, no matter what it may be, he has worked out the superficial karma of that experience. If a man has an impulse he must yield to that impulse sooner or later, and when he does he has then and there worked out the superficial karma. All that remains is the karma of judgment, or the last to be worked out and a karma that is influenced in no wise by man's part or lack of part in activity but that grows from the inner desire or the commission of that crime in the heart which is sin in the head of gold.